

1. A void former, comprising:
 - an elongate tubular body having a closed inner end and an open outer end;
 - a wall of said body defined by coextensive inner and outer surfaces; and
 - a groove formed in said wall and extending from one of said inner and outer surfaces thereof toward, but not through the other of said inner and outer surfaces;
 - a radially outwardly extending flange formed at said outer end of said body; and
 - a slot formed in said flange having side edges positioned on opposite sides of said groove;
 - said groove configured to permit said body to collapse inwardly in response to a force applied to said flange longitudinally thereof.
 2. The void former of claim 1, wherein said groove extends along said body and terminates at said flange.
 3. The void former of claim 1 wherein:
 - said groove extends along said body.
 4. The void former of claim 3, wherein said groove extends spirally along and about said body.

5. The void former of claim 4, wherein said groove is formed in said inner surface of said body.
6. The void former of claim 5, wherein said outer surface of said body is substantially smooth.
7. The void former of claim 1, further comprising:
a mass of hardened concrete having an outer surface;
said body being received in said mass with said open end positioned adjacent said outer surface.
8. The void former of claim 7, wherein:
said mass has an upper surface substantially normal to said outer surface thereof, and
said elongate tubular body extends substantially parallel to said upper surface.
- 5
9. The void former of claim 10 further comprising:
a radially outwardly extending flange formed at said outer end of said body adjacent said outer surface of said mass of hardened concrete.

10. In combination with a mass of hardened concrete having an upper surface and an edge surface extending substantially perpendicularly to said upper surface, the improvement comprising:

an elongate tubular body having inner and outer surfaces and a
5 closed inner end and an open outer end received in said concrete mass with
said outer end positioned at said edge of said mass and said body extending
substantially parallel to said upper surface, and
a groove formed in said inner surface of said tubular body
extending to but not through said outer surface.

11. The combination of claim 10, wherein said groove extends spirally along and about said body.

12. The combination of claim 11, further comprising:
a flange projecting outwardly of said body at said outer end
thereof.

13. A method of forming a void in a mass of hardened concrete having a substantially horizontal upper surface and an edge surface extending substantially perpendicular to the upper surface, the method comprising:

5 obtaining an elongate tubular body having a groove extending along the body at an inner surface thereof between a closed inner end and an open outer end of the body; and

positioning the body in the mass of concrete with the open outer end of the body adjacent the edge surface of the mass of concrete.

10 14. The method of claim 13, further comprising:

collapsing the body; and

removing the collapsed body from the mass of concrete.

15. The method of claim 13, wherein positioning the body comprises inserting the body into the concrete while it is in a plastic state.

16. The method of claim 13, wherein positioning the body comprises pouring concrete over and around the body.

17. The method of claim 14, wherein the groove extends spirally around the body and collapsing the body comprises applying a tensile force to the body.

18. The method of claim 17, wherein the body is provided with an outwardly extending flange positioned at the outer end of the body and collapsing the body comprises applying a tensile force to the flange.